

# Stewart/Hunter Lifestyle

## Young Chef Prepares for Step-Father's Homecoming

**Nondice Powell**  
*Hunter Army Airfield*

Sergeant Joshua Scrimsher, 224 Military Intelligence Battalion, isn't due home from Iraq until sometime this summer, but his step-son, 12-year-old Daniel Graham, is already preparing for his return.

"I'm trying to cook him a huge dessert- something almost like this," Graham said.

Graham was talking about the zucchini cookies he was making with other children who take part in the Middle School and Teen After School Program at the Youth Services Center on Hunter Army Airfield. It was Graham's idea to make the zucchini cookies.

"Twice a month we do a cooking experience," said Program Lead Yvonne Greene. "I asked them to go on the computer and find recipes that they would like to make. He decided on the zucchini cookies and told me he would like to learn to cook so when his step-father comes home maybe he'll be able to cook him a meal."

The opportunity to cook and use the internet for research is just

some of what is available to the students.

"We try to do arts and crafts," Greene said. "We have a computer specialist who teaches them how to use the computer and how to do different activities on the computer. They can do their homework and they can get a healthy snack. We have video games and a multipurpose room where they can play basketball."

The program is open to the children of military and Department of Defense employees. The children, grades six to eleven, come to the center from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. during school and from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. when school is out. Children participating in the program must be registered with Child and Youth Services. The annual registration fee is \$18 per child, with a maximum family rate of \$40.

Green explained the program allows the children to develop skills they will be able to use throughout their lives. For Graham, cooking seems to be one of the skills he might make in to a career.

"I think I'm going to make my own cooking show one day."

Photos by Nondice Powell



**Middle School and Teen After School Program lead counselor Yvonne Greene looks on as twelve-year-olds Regina Scott, Quintin Reed and Daniel Graham make zucchini cookies.**



**Left: Twelve-year-old Daniel Graham develops his culinary skills while taking part in the Middle School and Teen After School Program at the Youth Services Center on Hunter Army Airfield Feb. 20.**

# Mix it Up!



## Hunter Army Airfield ceremony celebrates Black History Month

**Nondice Powell**  
*Hunter Army Airfield*

Members of the military and civilian community packed Tuttle Army Health Clinic Feb. 22 for the clinic's Black History Month observance. Savannah Mayor Otis Johnson was the guest speaker for the event at Hunter Army Airfield.



Photo by Nondice Powell

**Members of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Steppers wow the crowd with their performance at the Black History Month Observance Feb. 22 at the Tuttle Army Health Clinic on Hunter Army Airfield.**

"When I walked in, I was surprised at the number of people," Johnson said. "I thought it was going to be a small group because when they said the Tuttle Clinic I know it's a small facility."

Before partaking in some traditional "soul food," attendees were able to enjoy performances by the Wesleyan Gospel Choir from Savannah State University and the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Steppers.

"I could have just allowed them to continue singing and sat down and enjoyed them," Johnson said.

Johnson and Tuttle Army Health Clinic Commander Lt. Col. Bobby Jones felt it was important to have the observance at Hunter.

"African American history month is an effort to lift up the contributions of Africans and African descendants to the world," Johnson said. "African Americans have played important roles in the military life of this country from colonial times right on up to what we're doing now. We need to take the time to celebrate those contributions."

"The importance of having this event on Hunter is that we are a close knit community," Jones said. "It's also just a chance to take time to recognize the contributions of African Americans to the United States and what it has become as a world leader."

Jones also feels it is important for the military to hold this observance due to the way service members come together despite their many differences.

"When you are in battle or supporting those in battle, it's just a matter of team work," Jones said. "Color, race, ethnic origin has nothing to do with it. You're one solid team and everyone depends on each other."

The installation chaplain's office invites you to a luncheon 12:30 p.m. March 8 at Club Stewart that promises to enhance command camaraderie and spiritual fitness. Tickets are available through your unit chaplains. A suggested donation of \$5 may be given when the ticket is redeemed at the door. The uniform is duty uniform. For more information, call 767-7028.



## Pets of the Week



Peter Pumkin Eater and Daisy Duke are some of the many homeless pets at the Fort Stewart animal shelter. The shelter has pets of all kinds, sizes, and breeds in their care. If you are interested in adopting, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842.



# MWR Briefs

## Army Emergency Relief drive slated

The Army AER annual fund drive kicks off at 9:15 a.m., March 2 at Fort Stewart at the ACS Family Readiness Center, building 87. It starts at Hunter at 9 a.m. March 5 at the ACS building 1286.

## Army Speed Pool tourney at ROCKY'S soon

Rocky's kicks off an eight week tourney scheduled for every Friday starting at 8 p.m. March 7. The Wednesday game is March 14. Weekly winners advance to the finals on April 27.

The registration fee is \$25, which includes a limited edition custom Fort Stewart pool cue & carrying case; however only 200 are available. The first 50 to register receive trick-shot teaching DVDs.

Cool prizes for weekly winners like mini MP3 Players, memory sticks and tourney T-shirts. The installation tournament winner

takes away an all inclusive three-night trip for two to Las Vegas!

Dave Pearson, world speed pool record holder, will be there. Beat his world record & win \$100,000. Register at 767-8715 or 368-2212

## Get ready for high-adventure

MWR offers a three day, two night trip March 23-25 to Coker Creek Adventure Center, near Chattanooga, Tennessee. The bus leaves Fort Stewart at 5 p.m. March 23. Accomadations include bunkhouse style rooms, five meals, your choice of horseback riding or mountain biking in the morning, then whitewater rafting on the Oconee River in the afternoon.

On March 25, there will be time for sightseeing or hiking before returning home. The cost is \$230 per individual. Payment is due March 1. For more information, call 767-2841.



## AAFES PRESENTS

MAR. 1 TO 7



## Stomp the Yard

Mar. 1 — 7 p.m.

(Columbus Short, Brian J. White)

DJ, a troubled youth from Los Angeles attending the historically black Truth University in Atlanta, Ga. He finds solace in joining a struggling fraternity where he begins implementing his street-style dance moves in an attempt to help the step team win the coveted National Step Show Championship. *Rated PG-13 (violence, sexual material, language) 114 min*

## Dreamgirls

Mar. 2-3 — 6 p.m.

(Beyonce Knowles, Jamie Foxx)

Effie White, Deena Jones, and Lorrell Robinson are a promising singing trio called The Dreamettes. Their talent attracts an ambitious manager, who uses unscrupulous tactics to move the girls from backup singers to superstars of their own. The group evolves into a more sophisticated group. The money, and fame doesn't bring them happiness. *Rated PG-13 (language, sexuality, drug content) 131 min*

## Smoking Aces

Mar. 2-3 — 9 p.m.

(Ben Affleck, Jeremy Piven)

Mob boss Primo Sparazza has taken out a hefty contract on Buddy "Aces" Israel--a sleazy magician who has agreed to turn state's evi-

dence against the Vegas mob. The FBI, places Aces into protective custody-under the supervision of two agents dispatched to Aces' Lake Tahoe hideout. When word of the price on Aces' head spreads into the community of ex-cons and cons-to-be, it entices bounty hunters to join in the hunt in a comic race to hit the jackpot and rub out Aces. *R (violence, language), 138 min.*

## The Queen

Mar. 4 — 6 p.m.

Mar. 7 — 7 p.m.

(Helen Mirren, Michael Sheen)

A witty portrait of the British royal family in crisis immediately following the death of Princess Diana. In the immediate aftermath of the Princess's passing, the Queen of England clashes with the slick modernity of the country's brand new, image-conscious Prime Minister. The result is an intimate, epic, battle between private and public, as a grieving nation waits to see what its leaders will do. *Rated PG-13 (language) 103 min*



Films are subject to availability. AAFES strives to show films according to the published schedule, but reserves the right to reschedule, cancel, or substitute showings as needed. For more information, call 767-3069.

# HEALTH W•A•C•H

## Winn Army Community Hospital

### Clearing up dermatology misconceptions

#### U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion & Preventive Medicine News Release

Do your hands get dry and cracked after using certain cleaning products? Do certain earrings give your earlobes a red, itchy rash? The reason may be contact dermatitis.

Contact dermatitis, an inflammation of the skin, is a common problem — among worker's compensation claims for dermatologic conditions, for example, 90 percent are for contact dermatitis.

Contact dermatitis may be the result of exposure to an irritating substance such as acid (for example, battery acid) or alkaline materials (for example, lye). It can also be the result of an allergic reaction to a substance that a person is exposed to or uses repeatedly. Although there may be no initial reaction, repeated exposure can cause hypersensitivity and a reaction to the product.

Symptoms of contact dermatitis include:

- \* Itching
- \* Redness
- \* Tenderness
- \* Localized swelling
- \* Pimple-like rash or blisters
- \* Dry, cracked skin
- \* Skin thickening and scaling

These are common substances known to cause contact dermatitis:

- \* Poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac
- \* Metals in jewelry
- \* Cosmetics or fragrances
- \* Rubber
- \* Skin cleansers or detergents
- \* Solvents (such as turpentine, gasoline)
- \* Acids and alkaline materials (such as lime, bleach, battery acid)

Metal allergy is the most common form of allergic contact dermatitis. Nickel is the most common metal allergen, and it is found in both costume and fine jewelry. Because perspiration increases absorption of metal into the skin, areas on the body where nickel-containing jewelry are present and where sweating occurs are prime targets for contact dermatitis. The trend of body piercing has also led to an increase in contact dermatitis on the lips, nose, tongue, navel and other pierced body parts.

Treatment of contact dermatitis includes thoroughly washing the affected skin to remove any trace of the irritant or allergen. Further exposure to the irritant or allergen should be avoided. However, contact dermatitis can frequently be difficult to distinguish from other rashes. Diagnosis by a dermatologist is often required.

A dermatologist will take a thorough patient history, including types and brands of personal-care products used, occupation, hobbies and prior treatments for the rash. Dermatologists can also diagnose the source of contact dermatitis through patch testing. During patch testing, small amounts of possible allergens are applied to the skin on strips of tape and then removed after two days. An allergy shows up as a small red spot on the site of the patch.

Contact dermatitis usually clears up within a few weeks. Frequently, the best treatment is to do nothing except remove the cause of the irritation.

For more information on contact dermatitis, visit the American Academy of Dermatology Web site at [www.aad.org](http://www.aad.org) and the National Institutes of Health, Medline Plus Web site at [www.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.nlm.nih.gov)

### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 13 January

• **Kyle Allen Merritt, Jr.** a boy, 5 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Pfc. Kyle A. Merritt, Sr. and Amanda Merritt.

• **Emma Riley Lynn Ginter**, a girl, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. Billy and Christina Ginter.

• **Emma Rose Payne**, a girl, 7 pounds, 7 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Joseph and Mary Payne.

• **Jonessia Jolee Quinones**, a girl, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Pfc. David and Jennifer Quinones.

#### 14 February

• **Zoe Evelyn Grimes**, a girl, 8 pounds, 12 ounces, born to Pfc. Randy and Elisa Grimes.

#### 15 February

• **Gracie Leila Allen**, a girl, 7 pounds, 5 ounces, born to Spc. Jeremy and Jennifer Allen.

• **Jaynarvious Tamarian Brown**, a boy, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Spc. Daceian and Ashley Brown.

• **Mallory Nicole Clausen**, a girl, 6 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Pvt. Jeffrey and Stephanie Clausen.

• **Teegean Gael Duke**, a girl, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Robert and Jennifer Duke.

• **Jamarion Mikell Fields**, a boy, 7 pounds, 13 ounces, born to Sgt. Jamar and Ebony Fields.

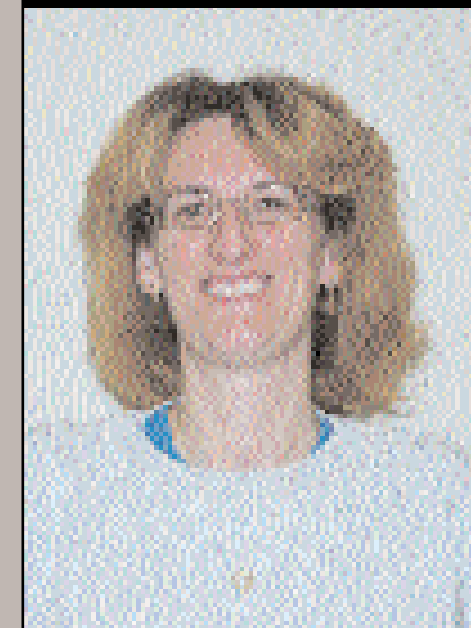
#### 16 February

• **Alexis Grace Coon**, a girl, 8 pounds, 4 ounces, born to Sgt. Alan and Jessica Coon.

• **Ariel Renee-Marie Hawthorne**, a girl, 8 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. Anthony and Keshia Hawthorne.

### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

#### ORSOLYA SIMMONS



Orsolya Simmons of Kaposvár, Hungary is a Red Cross volunteer working in the Business Operations Division at Winn Army Community Hospital.

Simmons volunteers because she has a lot of free-time on her hands. Her interests and hobbies include reading, hiking and nature.

If you'd like more information about becoming an American Red Cross volunteer at Winn, call Brigitte Roberts at 435-6903.





# I know God can, but will He for me?



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

**Chap. (Maj.) Addison Burgess**  
3rd Sustainment Brigade Chaplain

How many times have you discussed some problem or situation with your spiritual friends and they asked if you believe God can change our circumstances? When you're in the midst of a situation, you are likely to say you believe God can do anything because you don't want to appear as if you don't have faith. You smile and say that everything is fine and that you have the victory through prayer over your situation. But in reality, you inwardly question whether He will change the situation for you.

Little do your friends know that the utter despair you are experiencing keeps you from even going to the Father in prayer. The fear and the tears are hidden and reserved for those moments when no one is looking to

judge your lack of faith. This kind of doubt can be found not only in new Christians, but it can also be found in the most seasoned saint.

Doubt has no respect of person or position. No one is immune to fearing that God won't change a situation. It could be a fleeting moment of doubt or it could be a doubt that last throughout your circumstances. We have all been there, whether we like it or not.

For those of you who are experiencing doubt and fear that God will not change your circumstances, God has not left you. **Psalm 46:1** reminds us that "God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble". Regardless of the circumstances, the Lord is compassionate, gracious, and abounding in Love (**Psalm 103:8**).

He is the one standing beside you giving you strength to get to the next day. He cares for you as an individual, even when you are

unable to pray and fail to believe in Him. He won't turn away from you. Because of His mercy and His love, He is right where you left Him and will be waiting with open arms when you're finally able to trust and understand that He truly will do anything for you. We can always find strength and refuge when we look to the Lord. His Word says: "He who dwells in the shelter of the most high will rest in the shadow of the Almighty" (**Psalm 91:1**). When we entrust our problems and concerns in Him, we can rest assured that we will begin to see light through our dark times.

Remember, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, died for His sheep. He loves, leads, and protects each one. Although you may think of yourself as one of many sheep, you matter to Him as if you're the only one. He can and will change your circumstances when you turn your ear to Him.

## Chapel Schedule

### Fort Stewart

Catholic	Location	Time
Sunday Mass	Heritage	.9 a.m.
Saturday Mass	Heritage	.5 p.m.
<b>Protestant</b>		
Contemporary Worship	Marne	.11 a.m.
Gospel Worship	Victory	.11 a.m.
Traditional Worship	Marne	.9 a.m.
American Samoan	Vale	.11 a.m.
Liturgical Worship	Heritage	.11 a.m.
Kids' Church (K to 6th grade)	Across from Dia. Elem.	.11 a.m.
PWOC (Tuesday)	Vale	.9:30 a.m.

**Islamic**  
Friday Jum'ah ..... Marne ..... 1:30 p.m.  
Contact Staff Sgt. Aiken at 877-4053.

**Jewish**  
Contact Sgt. 1st Class. Crowther at 332-2084.  
Friday ..... Marne ..... 11:30 a.m.

### Hunter Army Airfield

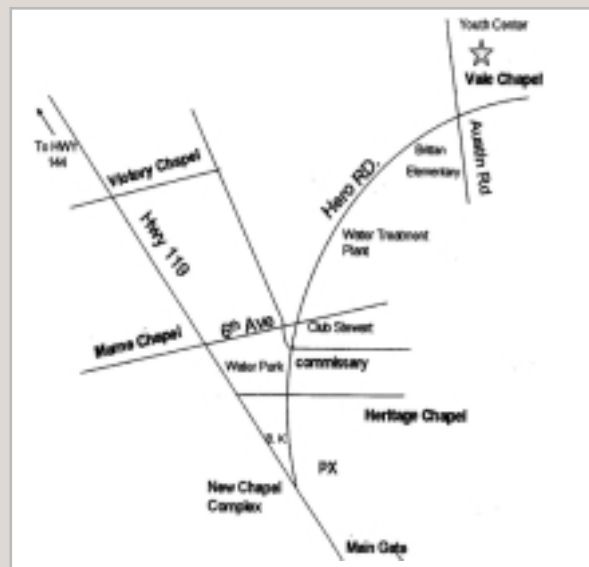
<b>Catholic</b>	
Sunday Mass	Chapel ..... 11 a.m.
<b>Protestant</b>	
Sunday Service	Chapel ..... 9 a.m.

### Religious Education Contacts

Stewart and Hunter, Director of RE, Mike Iliff, call 767-9789.  
Stewart Catholic RE coordinator, Beth Novak, call 767-6825.  
Hunter Catholic RE coordinator, Pamela Perez, call 315-5440.

## Fort Stewart Chapel Youth Ministry Junior and Senior High Students!

Join us for free games and pizza  
6:30 - 8 p.m. Sunday,  
at Vale Chapel in Bryan Village.  
For more information,  
call 877-7207.



## Kids Church

### Exciting Bible Lessons

with music, puppets, videos, crafts, games

**11 a.m. to Noon, Sunday**

at School Age Services  
(across from Diamond Elementary)

## For all kids Grade K-6

### Scheduled Bus Pick-up

10:15 a.m. - Liberty and Hendrich, Liberty and Sicily, Liberty and Anzio, Liberty and Rome

10:20 a.m. - Jasmine and Skyland Spruce, Jasmine and Liberty Wood, Wild Fern and Golden Birch

10:30 a.m. - Schofield and Sansidro, Schofield and Hollandia, Rogers and Argyle

10:40 a.m. - Naktong and New Guinea, Ormoc and New Guinea

10:50 a.m. - Marne Chapel

10:55 a.m. - Victory Chapel

**Questions?**

**Contact Chaplain Ric Thompson at 767-6831**



# Coastal Happenings

Courtesy of the Coastal Courier

**GSU arts season events planned**  
STATESBORO — Here is the lineup for the Performing Arts Center at Georgia Southern University:  
• **March 8** — Moscow Festival Ballet presents “Swan Lake.” Founded by a member of the legendary Bolshoi Ballet, this troupe features the classic Russian style of ballet.  
To buy a season subscription or get more information, call toll free (866) PAC-ARTS, or visit the PAC website at <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/pac>.

**Sing your heart out**  
The Greater Georgia Choral Chapter is looking for people who love gospel music and who want to do more than just listen to it.  
GGCC offers an opportunity to grow in the ministry of gospel music for adults and youth. Groups and individuals are welcome. Contact Wilma Gregg or Andre Gregg, at 912-368-4185.

**Free dance lessons offered**  
Free ballroom dancing lessons are being offered at Club Stewart 7 to 9 p.m., the first Wednesday of every month by the Moon River Dancers Association in Savannah. It is for soldiers and their families.  
Couples and singles welcome. No registration required, just show up and learn. Call 767-8609, for information.  
Also, if you're into ballroom dancing and don't mind the drive, the Seaside Dance Association in St. Simons Island has dances every Tuesday and Thursday through the summer at Blanche's Courtyard starting at 7 p.m.  
The association also hosts a dance on the last Sunday of each month at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel, in the grand dining room. Instruction starts at 5:15 and seating for the dinner and dance starts at 6.  
For more information, call (912) 634-9527 or e-mail, [SeasideDance@bellsouth.net](mailto:SeasideDance@bellsouth.net).

**View Native art**  
CARTERSVILLE — After a year on the road, male and female effigies created several hundred years ago have returned home to Etowah Indian Mounds Historic Site here.  
The nearly three-foot-tall marble sculptures had been part of the traveling exhibit “Hero, Hawk and Open Hand,” showcasing American Indian art of the ancient Midwest and South.  
The sculptures were found in mound C which was excavated during the 1950s and are among the finest pieces of ancient Indian art in the United States.  
They were so well preserved that even the paint colors are still vivid today.  
Today, visitors to Etowah Indian Mounds can see the original effigies while touring the museum and grounds.  
Exhibits include ornamental pieces, a head-shaped rattle made of copper, pottery, weapons and dozens of other artifacts dating back as much as 1,000 years.

Three main mounds remain, the highest standing 63-feet.  
The historic site is six miles southwest of I-75 exit 288 in Cartersville. Admission is \$2.50 for children and \$4 for adults. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 2-5:30 p.m. Sunday. For information, call 770-387-3747 or visit [www.gastateparks.org/info/etowah](http://www.gastateparks.org/info/etowah).

**Chess, anyone?**  
STATESBORO — Adults and children alike are invited to play chess in the Statesboro Mall 3 to 5 p.m. every Sunday. Chess in the Mall is hosted by the Ogeechee River Scholastic Chess Association and school chess clubs throughout Bulloch County. Go to <http://chess85.tripod.com> or e-mail [j-lutz@enia.net](mailto:j-lutz@enia.net) or call 912-764-9770.  
Local chess players are also trying to stir interest in the game around Hinesville.  
If you're interested in playing, and possibly forming a club, call 876-4715.

**Savannah Cultural Events**  
Activities sponsored by the Savannah Department of Cultural Affairs include these ongoing events:  
**Every first Friday of the month**  
Folk Music by Savannah Folk Music Society, 7:30 p.m. Free at Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church.  
The Arts at City Market Center, Upstairs, Jefferson & West St. Julian Streets, free 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call (912) 232-7731.

**Every first Saturday of the month**  
Adult and youth basic ballroom dance classes, by Moon River Dancers: 1 to 3 p.m. at W. Broad Street YMCA, 1110 May St. Admission is \$3 per person. Call 912-925-7416 or visit [www.savannahusabda.org](http://www.savannahusabda.org).

**Every third Wednesday of the month**  
Open Mic Poetry Night - Signup at 7:45 p.m., Gallery Espresso, 6 East Liberty St. Call 912-233-5348.

**Saturdays and Sundays**  
Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home Foundation tours 1 to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays. Located at 207 E. Charlton St. on Lafayette Square. Born in Savannah in 1925, writer, Mary Flannery O'Connor, lived in a Charlton Street house until 1938. Today, it is maintained partly as a memorial to her and partly as a literary center for Savannah. Literary activities are held at various times October through May, free. Call 912-233-6014.

**Every Sunday**  
Oldie Goldies Sunday at the American Legion Post 500, 1716 Montgomery St., 4 to 8 p.m. Call 912-925-7116.  
The Reel Savannah Film Group presentations, 7 p.m., Sunday evenings at the Lucas Theatre. Tickets, which are \$6, are available an hour before showtime.

**Free year of golf offered**

Georgia State Park Golf Courses have membership benefits that will cost you nothing.  
Become a Georgia Golf Internet member and you'll be automatically entered into quarterly drawings for an annual greens pass (a \$575 value).  
Internet members receive benefits, such as discounts on green fees and pros shop merchandise, free range balls, free golf for your birthday, invitations to special events, a monthly newsletter and more.  
And as a member, you'll be able to make tee times online. Register at [www.GolfGeorgia.org](http://www.GolfGeorgia.org). You may call 1-800-434-0982.

**Visit Armstrong Arboretum**  
SAVANNAH — Armstrong Atlantic State University has an arboretum, which encompasses the 250 acre campus and displays more than 100 species of trees and 200 species of shrubs and other woody plants.  
The Fern Collection, featuring 23 varieties of native and non-native ferns, is on the west side of Jenkins Hall.  
The recently completed Ginger Collection focuses on seven groups of ginger plants and is at the south end of Hawes Hall.  
For more information or to schedule an educational tour, call AASU's plant operations at 912-921-5472.

**Frisbee golf**  
ELBERTON — Disc golf may not get much coverage by sports writers, but it has a loyal following of fans who enjoy exercising outdoors while testing their throwing skills.  
The typical course features 18 “holes” with challenges of trees, streams and other natural obstacles.  
One of the most scenic and well kept disc golf courses in Georgia is at Richard B. Russell State Park in Elberton. While hiking between tee pads, players enjoy the rolling green scenery of this pastoral park.  
The cost is only \$2 for parking and \$1 per person to play. After a fun game in the field, visitors can enjoy watersports on Lake Richard B. Russell, explore hiking and biking trails, or relax at numerous picnic spots throughout the park. Overnight accommodations include lakeside cottages and shaded campsites. Richard B. Russell State Park is located 8 miles northeast of Elberton off Hwy. 77.  
For more information, call 706-213-2045 or visit [www.gastateparks.org](http://www.gastateparks.org).

**Train in Southwest Georgia**  
CORDELE — Take a ride into history aboard the SAM Shortline Excursion Train. Riding in vintage railcars, passengers travel past scenic country farms, stepping off to explore quaint towns and fascinating historic sites.  
President Jimmy Carter's boyhood home, the Plains antique mall, an impressive telephone museum, and Habitat for Humanity's Global Village are just some of

the attractions along the route.  
The main depot is in Cordele, but riders may board at any stop, including Georgia Veterans State Park, Leslie, Americus and Plains.  
The cost for adults is \$20 and \$10 for children, roundtrip.  
For a schedule and ticket sales, visit [www.SamShortline.com](http://www.SamShortline.com) or call 1-800-864-7275.

**Georgia's natural springs**  
WARM SPRINGS — Georgia's state parks and historic sites host three natural springs that have helped shape the state and our culture.  
The best known is **Warm Springs**. Emerging at 900 gallons-per-minute and 88 degrees year-round, one of Georgia's seven warm springs transformed a west Georgia town into a well-known stagecoach stop.  
The town of Warm Springs was host to Georgia's high society during the early 1900s, and it became the vacation home of Franklin D. Roosevelt after he sought relief from polio in the warm, therapeutic water.  
Just off I-75 in middle Georgia is **Indian Springs State Park**, thought to be the oldest state park in the nation.  
The Creek Indians believed the springs had healing and invigorating qualities.  
The town of Indian Springs became a bustling resort town from the 1820s until the Great Depression.  
For More Information call 706-655-5870, or visit [www.FDR-LittleWhiteHouse.com](http://www.FDR-LittleWhiteHouse.com).  
For Indian Springs information, call 770-504-2277 or for Magnolia Springs State Park, Millen, call, 478-982-1660, or go to [www.GaStateParks.org](http://www.GaStateParks.org).

**Backpackers lodge**  
AMICALOLA FALLS — With fall weather on the horizon it's time to start planning a hiking trip.  
Georgia's only backcountry lodge, The Hike Inn, is found at the end of a scenic five-mile trail beginning at Amicalola Falls State Park. Hikers are rewarded with soft beds, hot showers and hearty family-style meals.  
Staff members proudly boast that the temperature rose above 90 degrees only once last summer, making the eco-lodge a perfect getaway for June, July and August. Rates begin at \$65/adult and include meals. For details, visit [www.hike-inn.com](http://www.hike-inn.com) or call 1-800-864-7275. Guests are encouraged to call far in advance since weekends fill quickly.

**Visit Georgia parks**  
Visitors to Georgia's 48 state parks can make online reservations for campsites, cottages, lodge rooms, picnic shelters and other facilities.  
To get to the parks' new reservation center, operated by Maryland-based Spherix, click “Make a Reservation” on [www.gastateparks.org](http://www.gastateparks.org) or call 1-800-864-7275 (open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday-Friday; and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.)

## Geren visits information forum

**Nondice Powell**  
*Hunter Public Affairs*

Members of the civilian community who support the personnel and families of the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield community gathered for the Regional Information Sharing Forum at Hunter Club on Feb. 22.  
The purpose of the forum was to allow the community to gather and better understand what support is given to the military community and how they can supplement it.  
“The work you're going to do today and the work that is going to flow from this is going to make a huge difference,” said Under Secretary of the Army Pete Geren, while making a brief stop at the forum. “A Soldier can do his work or her work overseas if they know their family is taken care of and you are the most important part of that.”  
“I thank you for your participation,” said Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Garrison Commander Col. Todd Buchs. “I can't say how much it means to me but for our community overall. What you're doing today demonstrates the love, care and concern that we already know exists in our communities.”  
With the deployments of troops from the 3rd Inf. Division, it is even

more important to know what can be done to support the community.  
“You country, your Army has come back again and again to the 3rd Inf. Div. and asked them to do the hard work in the war against terrorism,” Geren said. “As far as supporting our Soldiers and their families, there is nothing more important than what each of you does and what your community does.”  
“My concern and my focus as the garrison commander is the families,” Buchs said. “That's what I'm here for, that's what Lt. Col. Coffman and his folks are here for and that's what you're here for. The focus is on our families.”  
The forum gave the military community the chance to show some of the training and other events currently going on and scheduled, to highlight what services the military provides the division, and discuss how the military and civilian communities can spread the word of available services.  
Thanks were continually expressed for what those who attended the forum do for the community.  
“As you know, we're about to deploy a lot of the Soldiers from the 3rd Inf. Div.,” Geren said. “The burden you have been carrying is about to get heavier. We ask you to think

of imaginative ways to reach out. I also just want to let you know from the heart of the Army we thank you for what you do and our Soldiers couldn't do what they do without you.”



Nondice Powell

**Under Secretary of the Army Pete Geren addresses attendees of the Regional Information Sharing Forum Feb. 22.**



Nondice Powell

**Members of Boy Scout Troop 16 from Blessed Sacrament Church in Savannah take part in the flag detail with the Soldiers of B Co., 603rd ASB at Retreat on Hunter Army Airfield Feb. 23.**



# 2007 RCI resident survey underway

**Garry L. Compton**

*Residential Communities Initiative (RCI)  
Office*

The Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) Office and private partner GMH Military Housing at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are committed to assuring that soldiers and their families are provided with the best possible quality-of-life while living in on-post family housing.

If you are residing in on-post family housing,

you will be receiving an important Army Resident Assessment Survey questionnaire in the mail box within the next few weeks. The purpose of this survey is to let you and your family tell us how well we are doing in satisfying your on-post housing needs. The information you provide will help guide us in providing future improvements to our housing facilities and services.

The RCI program is designed to enhance the quality of life for you and your family by building new homes, renovating existing homes and

improving neighborhood amenities such as playgrounds, outdoor athletic courts, walking/running trails, etc. GMH operates and maintains on post housing facilities and services, and RCI provides oversight of GMH performance for quality assurance.

Survey questionnaires will be mailed to residents in March. As a resident in on-post, you can influence the results of this survey by providing a frank response to the survey questions. Your answers to these questions are strictly confidential.

The survey is also being distributed to all other Army installations participating in the RCI family housing privatization program. We are not tabulating personal data, and your survey in no way identifies you or the residence you currently occupy. This is your opportunity to have a positive impact on your community by taking time out to complete and return the survey. Help make a difference in the quality of life for our servicemembers and their families.



## Stewart

### GMH Walking Club

Join us for our very first meeting! Don't try to get in shape alone, do it with friends! Put on your sneakers and walk your way into good health! Strollers welcome. The event starts 9:30 a.m. March 5 and March 12 at Southern Oaks Community Center.

### St. Patrick's Day Party

Put on something green and join the party! Come celebrate with crafts, food and fun 3:30-4:30 p.m. March 16 at Southern Oaks Community Center.

### Blow the Biggest Bubble

It's National Bubble

Blowers Week, so come and participate by blowing bubbles of all shapes and sizes! 3:30-4:30 p.m. March 22 at Southern Oaks Community Center.

### Join Pen Pal Club

Our monthly meeting is here again. Members, bring a new friend to join in on the fun and take the time to write your pal. 3:30-4:30 p.m. March 28 at Southern Oaks Community Center.

### Smell the Flowers

Welcome spring time with fresh flowers and a stress-free life! Come plant your very own flower and take advantage of some helpful information on how to alleviate stress in your family, 4-5 p.m. March 30 at Southern Oaks

Community Center.

### Community Huddles

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with GMH.

Help make your neighborhood a great place to live! March 13 (Marne Homes) and March 20 (Marne Terrace) at 10:30-11 a.m. Events take place at the Playground on the corner of Davis St. and Hero Rd. (Marne Homes), and the Playground at the intersection of Victory Division and Mindoro Loop (Marne Terrace).

Other neighborhood huddles coming soon!

## Hunter

### St. Patrick's Day Party

Put on something green and join the party! Come celebrate with crafts, food and fun 4:30-5:30 p.m., March 14 at New Savannah, New Callaway Community Center.

### Blow the Biggest Bubble

It's National Bubble Blowers Week, so come and participate by blowing bubbles of all shapes and sizes! 4-5 p.m. March 19 at New Savannah, New Callaway Community Center

### Join Pen Pal Club

Our monthly meeting is here again. Members, bring a new friend to join in on the fun and take the time to write your pal. 4-5 p.m. March 26 at New Savannah, New Callaway Community Center.

## Smell the Flowers

Welcome spring time with fresh flowers and a stress-free life! Come plant your very own flower and take advantage of some helpful information on how to alleviate stress in your family, 4:30-5:30 p.m. March 23 at New Savannah, New Callaway Community Center.

### Community Huddles

Be an active part of your community by attending your huddle and sharing ideas, issues or concerns with GMH. Help make your neighborhood a great place to live! March 19 and March 26 at 10:30-11 a.m. Events takes place at the Ken Heller Jr. Community Management Office. Other neighborhood huddles coming soon!